[14th August 1956

Relief to weavers

* 100-E *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by the State Government to give relief to weavers outside the Co-operative Societies?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : A scheme of rebate on sales of handloom cloth by organizations outside the co-operative fold was sanctioned in October 1954. It had to be withdrawn with effect from 1st February 1956 on account of allegations of extensive abuse of the scheme by the dealers.

A prize award scheme with the help of grant from Cess Fund is being implemented. Weavers outside the co-operative fold are eligible to compete for prizes for best designs under this scheme.

A scheme for the reorganisation of the Textiles Institute, Madras, has been approved. Knowledge in the use of improved appliances and production of attractive designs will be within the reach of weavers outside the co-operative fold also as a result of this scheme. A peripatetic weaving party for the benefit of the weavers has also been sanctioned.

The All-India Handloom Board had appointed a Committee to investigate the question of exploring the scope of financial assistance from the Cess Fund to weavers outside the co-operative fold. The Committee is expected to submit its recommendations in September 1956.

Pappadam industry

* 100-F *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any amount is allotted for pappadam industry; and

(*b*) if so, how it is distributed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir.

(*b*) It is distributed as follows :—

	RS.
Appalam Production unit at Triplicane, Madras.	17,460
Appalam Production centre in Chidambaram ...	23,063
Appalam Production centre in Athoor (Madurai district)	23,063
Appalam Production centre in Cheraumahadevi (Tirunelveli district)	23,063
Appalam Production centre in Tirukalikundram (Chingleput district)	23,063